

Afternoon Delight

It might seem the most quintessential of English traditions, but nowhere has embraced afternoon tea quite like Hong Kong. Although The Peninsula's offering is probably the most famous in the city, boasting over 80 years of history to its cucumber sandwiches and clotted cream scones (and the queues to prove it!), there are plenty of other teatime hotspots around town. RACHEL READ takes us on a tour around half a dozen of her favourites.

1 The Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong

The plush surroundings of The Clipper Lounge make for the perfect place to while away a couple of hours. With traditional finger sandwiches, bite-sized desserts and a wide-ranging menu of bespoke tea blends, this is a Hong Kong classic for all the right reasons.

Best for: The rich buttery scones are the stars of the show here – and you're bound to leave with a newfound addiction to the truly scrumptious rose-petal jam that comes with them. (Tip: grab a jar from The Cake Shop to take home – you won't regret it).

Price: From \$278 for one, \$488 for two

M/F, 5 Connaught Road, Central
2825 4007 | mandarinoriental.com.hongkong

2 Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong

For world-class luxury with a contemporary touch, the Four Seasons' sun-filled Lounge is the place to be. Add an extra dash of decadence by opting for a cup of their signature hot chocolate alongside your pretty-as-a-picture tea set, and be sure to snag one of their special "pass-around" desserts of the day too.

Best for: Dessert, dessert, dessert. Chef Ringo Chan is a true pastry pro and his teatime treats are every bit as delicious as they are beautiful; come during holidays like Christmas and Easter to take advantage of a stunning dessert buffet spread too (hello, reindeer macarons!).

Price: \$270 for one, \$515 for two (\$290 or \$560 on weekends and public holidays)

8 Finance Street, Central
3196 8820 | fourseasons.com/hongkong



3 The Ritz-Carlton Hong Kong

Chocolate fiends will go cacao-crazy for Café 103's indulgent chocolate-themed offering. There are enough chocolate desserts to make Willy Wonka jealous here – even the savouries have been known to feature a chocolate twist or two! With incredible harbour panoramas and a modern relaxed ambience, it's an ideal spot to bring visitors too.

Best for: The spectacular view; on a clear day, that iconic Hong Kong cityscape from 103 floors up is pretty unbeatable.

Price: \$378 for one, \$608 for two (\$398 or \$628 on weekends and public holidays)

103/F, International Commerce Centre,
1 Austin Road West, Kowloon
2263 2270 | ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/HongKong



4 The Continental

Conveniently located atop Pacific Place mall, The Continental's emerald and marble décor exudes sophistication – but thankfully with none of the pretensions. The classic tea set hits all the right notes while the bright and spacious interior, with a bonus alfresco area for sunny days, is perfect for family gatherings or girlie gossips alike.

Best for: With a lovely location, generous portions and costing only \$365 for two people, this is definitely one of the city's best afternoon tea all-rounders.

Price: \$365 for two

Unit 406, L4, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty
2704 5211 | thecontinentalhongkong.com



5 The Langham Hong Kong

Recently renovated in the style of its namesake at The Langham London (a location famed for its afternoon tea), Palm Court offers a master-class in understated elegance. With a divine tea set that perfectly balances savoury and sweet, plus an extensive range of speciality brews, this is about as chic as afternoon teas get.



Best for: The ambience – classy banquettes in shades of Tiffany blue, beautiful tailor-designed Wedgwood crockery and even a live harpist... when can we move in?

Price: \$348 for one, \$598 for two

Lobby Level, 8 Peking Road, Tsim Sha Tsui
2132 7898 | langhamhotels.com/en/the-langham/hong-kong

6 FINDS

If you're sick of scones and sandwiches, FINDS – Hong Kong's only Scandinavian restaurant – could be your perfect pit stop. Offering an oasis of calm from hectic Tsim Sha Tsui, this contemporary restaurant delivers afternoon tea with a Nordic twist – and some of the cutest crockery in town too.

Best for: Something a bit different – the portions are a little daintier than average but with items like smoked salmon pastrami, crab buckwheat blinis and green apple Danish pastries, this is an unusual but delicious take on tradition.

Price: \$356 for two, \$350 per person for the private room

1/F, The Luxe Manor, 39 Kimberly Road,
Tsim Sha Tsui
2522 9318 | finds.com.hk

